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Viewing cable 10NEWDELHI116, MENON APPOINTED NEW NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags [#cablegate](#) and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. [#10NEWDELHI116](#).

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
10NEWDELHI116	2010-01-22 15:09 2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy New Delhi	

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/article1547606.ece>

VZCZCXRO5310
OO RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHDBU RUEHLH RUEHNEH RUEHPW
DE RUEHNE #0116/01 0221509
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 221509Z JAN 10
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9220
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE
RUEHBKJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8199
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1514
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 7204
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 3887
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 2097
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA 0468
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 8824
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RHMCUU/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RUEIDN/DNI WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 NEW DELHI 000116

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR SCA/INS, DRL, DS/IP/SCA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/21/2020

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [KDEM](#) [KNNP](#) [PK](#) [IN](#) [PINR](#)

SUBJECT: MENON APPOINTED NEW NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR

REF: NEW DELHI 77

Classified By: Political Counselor Uzra Zeya for Reasons 1.4 (B, D)

11. (C) SUMMARY: Former Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon was appointed India's new National Security Advisor on January 22. M.K. Narayana Shivshankar Menon: Experience and Loyalty Rewarded - - -

12. (C) Menon is among India's most experienced career diplomats, having served as ambassador or high commissioner in China, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

13. (C) Menon is loyal to Prime Minister Singh and an important voice on dialogue with Pakistan. Menon's mandatory retirement from the Indian

14. (C) Erudite and polished, Menon is an intellectually formidable, pragmatic, eloquent proponent of India's national interest and well known

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success of the U.S.-India relationship and will be a formidable advocate for the relationship working directly under Prime Minister Singh.

The Portfolio: Reverting to Tradition

- - -

15. (C) Menon's appointment marks a return to tradition for the NSA post, both by virtue of the experience he brings to the office and the responsibilities he will assume.

16. (C) Menon will hold the rank of Minister of State and will take on a more focused portfolio than his predecessor. Menon's diplomatic experience and internal security expertise will be key to his success.

Internal Security: Making Way for Reform

- - -

17. (C) Narayanan's departure is viewed as a strategic victory for Home Minister Chidambaram, who has tussled with the outgoing NSA over bureaucratic

Comment

- - -

18. (C) Narayanan's departure and Menon's appointment are further signals of Home Minister Chidambaram's growing power relative to other foreign

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Minister, despite lacking a strong electoral base. However, Chidambaram's management style and rapid ascent to power has rubbed many within his

ROEMER